

Senate Student Affairs Committee  
Minutes from February 12, 2021 Meeting

Attendance:

Rebecca Angel, Oscar Barrau, Jenny Deranek, Jennifer Essig, Kayla Isenbletter, Jen Kazmierczak, Stacie Merken, Monika Porter, Anna Savvopoulou, Andrew Swain.

Recorder: Oscar Barrau

Main discussion:

The Committee's current goal is to learn how the University could help students achieve their academic progress, and maintain their personal wellbeing, during these difficult times. For this purpose, the Committee is drafting a survey to gather concrete information from students.

The Committee discussed the scope of its drafted survey questions. It looked into several considerations, namely the necessity not to duplicate the efforts of similar surveys on campus, avoiding "survey fatigue" among students, and establishing the main priorities of this specific survey.

Specifically, looking into fall 2021, the Committee would like to know what is it that worked for students, and what needs improvement, in all three modes of instruction used during the last two semesters: 1-face-to-face, 2-hybrid, and 3-fully online.

The Committee's short-term task is to review and revise the current survey's questions by Friday February 19, based partly on the specific inquiry above. The Committee would hope to obtain meaningful student feedback in time to allow faculty members adjust their syllabi for the fall.

Topic for next meeting in March:

The Committee will invite representatives from the offices of Student Disabilities and Student Veterans to do a brief (10-15 minute) presentation on the information they collected after doing their own student surveys. The Committee believes that looking into demographics that are more vulnerable will provide a good sense of current challenges, and possible solutions, for a wide range of students.

Committee composition for next academic year:

Oscar Barrau, Jenny Deranek, Jennifer Essig, Stacie Merken, Andrew Swain will end the second (and final) year of their term at the end of spring 2021. The Committee urges all its members to make recommendations about potential new members to fill these five seats.